Nobyatsin Grammar

Nobyatsin is descended from Vulgar Latin. It largely retains the vocabulary of the era near the fall of the Western Roman Empire. There are various changes to the phonology and as a result the grammar. The declension system largely disappears due to the weakening of final syllables of many words. Most words, if at all inflected, only are marked for gender, typically by -a. There exist -os and -as as masculine and feminine plural markers, but these are typically appended to **articles** like the, a (iye, un) and the noun is left unmarked. This means plurality is not marked on nouns. The neuter gender still persists in various forms, primarily as a means of abstraction, and many words of this class were re-sorted into masculine or feminine respectively. Masculine nouns tend to end in consonants, -o, or -u. Feminine nouns tend to end with -a. Many words end with -i or -e. These words may be either masculine or feminine.

Nouns **always** are capitalized in their first letter. This orthography rule makes them easier to spot out in a sentence when written.

Articles
Definite articles are used like "the" in English, to refer to a specific instance of a noun. **Ië, iä, iös, and iäs** are the forms of these. **Iüd** also exists, and functions like in Spanish "lo", used for making abstractions or generalizations.
Ië shãp - The field Iös shãp - The fields Iä fetwa - The rock Iäs fetwa - The rocks

Indefinite articles are used like "a" in English, to refer to an indeterminate instance of a noun. **Un, unos, una, & unas** are forms of these. **Aliçun, aliçunos, aliçuna, aliçunas** are also used similarly to indefinite articles, closest to the meaning of "some" in English. For example, Alishuna feuzõa shuxit. Some person is running.

Various articles contract when next to certain prepositions:

Di + Article:
Di+ië = Dë, Di+iä = Dä, Di+iös = Dös, Di+Iäs = Däs, Di+iüd = Düd
Di+Un => Dun, Di+Una => Duna, Di+Unos => Dunos, Di+Unas => Dunas

Ad + Article:
Ad+ië = Adë, Ad+iä = Adä, Ad+iös = Adös, Ad+iäs = Adäs

Fó + Article:
Fó + Un = Fon Fó+Una = Fona Fó+Unos => Fonos Fó+Unas => Fonas

Folá + Article:
Folá+Iye=> Folaye Folá+Iya=> Folaya Folá+Iyos=> Folayos Folá+Iyas=> Folayas

In + Article:
+Iye => Inye +Iya => Inya +Iyos => Inyos +Iyas => Inyas

Adjectives
Adjectives modify nouns by assigning traits associated with their root. These words typically come **after** the noun that they are modifying. They should agree in gender and number with the noun they are modifying.

Iye Shãp jwãdi - the large field Iyos shãp jwãdi (-i adjectives do not change form)
Una Moneta bõa, ishas Moneta bõas
Iye Fãy wijid, iyos Fãy wijidos.

Adverbs
Adverbs modify verbs by assigning traits associated with their root. These words may come before or after the verb they are modifying, though this may generate different connotative differences or have certain implications.

They can be produced from adjectives by using their feminine form, cutting off the -a ending, and adding the -é ending.
Mau (bad) -> Mala (feminine form) -> Malé (poorly, badly)

Many adverbs ending with -i or -e end up with -é as an ending, shifting their historical stress to the final syllable; this process happens due to analogy.

There are certain words that are adverbs but do not have the -é ending, like yã. Apart from these are *phrasal adverbs*, those which are formed using a preposition like **ad**, **di** or **shun** plus a noun. An example is **di nochi**, which means "at night".

The -e ending is found in many adverbs that are not derived from adjectives, but rather entire phrases. -E in Latin was used to form many adverbs as well, and so Nobäcin speakers began to associate them heavily with this, and even tacked it on to the ends of adverbial phrases that already existed, often forming a new single word.

Pronouns

Pronouns are used in place of nouns in a sentence. They often represent the subject, but can also represent the object. Pronouns are NOT required in Nobyatsin sentences, but they are often employed for clarification or emphasis.

NOMINATIVE
Ijo Nos|| I, We
Tu Bos|| You, Y'all
Oye Oyos|| He, They
Oya Oyas|| She, They

ACCUSATIVE
Me Nos
Te Bos
Lo Los
La Las

DATIVE
Mi Nobi
Tsi Vobi
Le Les

PERSONAL POSSESSIVE
Mey Nostui "*mine* is better…"
Tuy Bestui
Suy

SUBSTANTIVE POSSESSIVE
Meu/Mea/Meos/Meas   Nosteu/Nostwa/Nostwos/Nostwas
Túo/Túa/Túos/Túas   Besteu/Bestwa/Bestwos/Bestwas

Súo/Súa/Súos/Súas

PRONOUN WEAK FORMS
When pronouns like "Se" "Me", "Te", "Lo", etc. are paired next to a word that they are modifying, and that word starts with a vowel, these pronouns take their **weak forms**, which are essentially just the consonants.

A common occurrence of this is the use of **Se** with **reflexive and pronominal** verbs, especially when that verb takes ABELI as a helping verb, or starts with a vowel.

Se abit dilaçatu -> S-abit dilaçatu
Me abit dilaçatu -> M-abö dilaçatu

Using Direct and Indirect Object Pronouns
Nobyatsin has a particular word order for the usage of direct and indirect object pronouns, as well as placement of direct and indirect object phrases, that came to be as a result of the decay of the declension system. Alongside prepositions, this new word order supplanted noun declensions for indicating information about different nouns in a sentence and their grammatical role relative to the verb.

She *made* the food.
Ella *hizo* la comida.
Oya *heshít* iya Shomita.

In the above sentence, the subject (nominative case) is bolded, the verb is italicized, and the direct object is underlined (accusative case). The underlined portion can be replaced by a direct object pronoun in this sentence, since *heshít* in this sentence is being transitively used. Since the object is just a noun, and not a specific referent, it is considered to be in the third person, and will be replaced by **la.**

When la or other object pronouns are used, they must be placed **before the verb**.

Oya la *heshít*.

Ella <u>la</u> *hizo.*
She *made* <u>it</u>.

Oyo edit iye Pãy dye Hun.
Él come el pan del horno.
He eats the bread from the oven.

In sentences without indirect object pronouns, indirect objects are indicated by phrases starting with **ad + noun.** These may occur before or after the verb, depending on the sentence, which may trigger the need of indirect object pronouns. When referring to a specific person, **atau** is used instead of ad.

Ijo dí iya Fala ad oya.
Yo le di la pala a ella.
I gave the shovel to her.

The above sentence is correct, but atypical. It is more common to have a redundant use of the indirect object pronoun and the indirect object phrase. These pronouns come before the verb in question.

Oya le dít iyos Safõy ad oyo.
She gave the soaps to him.
Ella le dio los jabones a él.

It is worth noting that the placement of the indirect object phrase can vary.

Ad oyo le dít oya iyos Safõy.
She gave him the soaps.

The difference here is that the second sentence is emphasizing to whom the soap was given, versus the first sentence stressing that she gave soaps to him.

Both indirect and direct object phrases can be replaced by corresponding pronouns.

Nos dimu iyas Hyoli ad tsi.
Nos tsi dimu iyas Hyoli.

We gave you the flowers.

Nos tsi las dimu.
We gave you them.

I will give him the ring.
Ijo le dabiló iye Aney. (ad oyo)

I will give it to him.
Ijo le lo dabiló.

Reflexive Pronouns / Pronominals
Using "se", many verbs can be turned into reflexive, pronominal, and/or impersonal. The most common and basic use of this is for actions like washing oneself.

Labalise iyas Mãy.
Ijo me labo iyas Mãy.

Dilaçali - To leave, let do
Dilaçali-se - To stop (doing), to let oneself

This is one example of this class of verbs.

Formality
Nobäcin has a variety of ways to deal with formality. A prominent one is the use of certain pronouns:

Dõ / Dõa
These sound similar to "sir / ma'am" in English, except they are used more frequently. When speaking with any adult person that is unfamiliar, this word is used. If you know a person but there is a formal social distance between you, these are still used. If a person is perceived to be older than you, it is also used.

Dõ, kailit kîd ijo haça iä Çomita? Sir, do you want me to make the food?

Meuçé

This pronoun is used to be particularly polite. I

– END OF PRONOUNS –

The Imperative Mood
The imperatives of verbs are formed by taking their first person present subjunctive forms and shifting the stress to the final vowel. For the plural, only adding an extra -te at the end will suffice. The first person plural also can be used in the subjunctive as a way to make suggestions for a group.

Chamali -> Chame -> Chamé -> Chamete /* Chamemu
Mutili -> Muta -> Mutá -> Mutate

Direct and indirect object pronouns can be used in this form, but they come **after** the verb, in the same order as for other constructions.

Chamé-me! Call me!
Dé-mi-lo! Give me it!
Bolé-le-la! Steal it from her!

Gerunds and the Present Progressive
Gerunds have various uses in Nobyatsin. They can be used with Istali to give a progressive indication to a verb. This is most commonly realized in the present tense, using the so-called present progressive. This is formed using a conjugation of Istali paired with the gerund of the action word.

Istó shãtãdo. I am singing. Estoy cantando.
Istamu shokendo iya shena. We are cooking dinner. Estamos cocinando la cena.

The formation of gerunds depends on the phonetics of the verb. -ALI class verbs will typically be marked by -ãdo, while -ER/-IR class verbs will have -endo.
Shãtali (CANTARE) -> Shãtãdo (CANTANDO)
Shokeli (COQUERE) -> Shokendo (COQUENDO)
Binkeli (VINCERE) -> Binkendo (VINCENDO)
Hasheli (FACERE) -> Hashendo (FACENDO)

Sautali (SALTARE) -> Sautãdo (SALTANDO)
Iseli (ESSERE) -> Isendo (SENDO)
Istali (STARE) -> Istãdo (STANDO)
Mutili (MUTTIRE) -> Mutendo (MUTTENDO)

ISELI VS ISTALI

Iseli and Istali are two verbs that mean "to be". They coexist because they have different uses. Iseli is used for the copula and for assigning essential attributes to something. Istali is specifically for conditions, locations, and various other phrases, and so tends to be more temporary in nature. **The present progressive** is formed using **istali + gerund**. The **passive voice** is formed using **iseli+past participle.**

Istó shalentsi. Estoy caliente. I am hot.
Oya istát wíjida. Ella está fría. She is cold.
Istó shun Sõych. Estoy con sueño. I am sleepy.
Istó lejendo un Lib. Estoy leyendo un libro. I am reading a book.

Iya Fetwa ist jwãdi. La piedra es grande. The rock is large.
Ish ist un Shãgwích. Eso es un cangrejo. That is a crab.
Ist nishesay kwid bexãt iye Fiz. They must sweep the floor. Es necesario que barren el piso.

ISTALI + SHUN

Istali is often used to indicate emotions, conditions, status, and other temporary things. When not paired with adjectives, istali can be used with SHUN (with) for a number of stative expressions.

Istó shun Hãy. I am hungry. (Literally, I am with hunger)

FORMATION AND USAGE OF DIMINUTIVES - AUGMENTATIVES

DIMINUTIVES

There are a few suffixes that are used to form diminutive forms of words. The -cul- infix used as a diminutive in Latin is not productive in Nobyatsin, instead being incorporated into various words with new meanings, for example, Nobyatsin preferring "AURICULA" over "AURIS" during its development, yielding thusly "Auïca", which is an unmarked word for "ear (outer)", and has no

diminutive connotation. While there are several diminutive suffixes, they do not have high contrast in meaning, and their usage is associated with the final sound of a given word.

-ÍT / -ITA
This diminutive is paired with nouns that **end with a consonant**.

-USH / -USHA
This diminutive gives nouns a **despective diminutive** sense. It is not particularly common, but is used.

-ÉU/ -ÉLA
This diminutive is paired with nouns that **end with a vowel.** It can have a connotation of "a funny sort of x".

For some speakers, especially younger ones as time moves forward, find less and less need to distinguish between these three endings, especially the first and last, to the point where they may alternate between the two regardless of the final sound of the word they are appending them to.

AUGMENTATIVES

-Õ / -ÕA

This is the most common augmentative suffix in Nobyatsin, and serves the general purpose of an augmentative. This tends to be used when describing people, and can serve as an attributive augmentative function to the word being described by the suffixed word.

-ÓT / -ÓTA
This is another common augmentative suffix, often reserved for things, and can indicate **contempt or despectiveness** towards the referent noun.

-ÁÇEU / -ÁÇELA
This augmentative suffix is most often used as a **pejorative**, to deride or debase the referent object or person.

THERE ARE with ABELI
Abeli can be used to mean there is or there are. Pair **Ibi + abeli** conjugated according to the number of an object to give this meaning.

Ibi abint kat Feuzõa akwí.
There are four people here.
Hay cuatro personas aquí.

Note that abint is plural third person, and that akwí is used at the end to emphasize the location where there are four people. Ibi does not mean here or there, but rather serves as a sort of filler pronoun for generic statements about the environment.

USE OF IBI AS AN ADVERBIAL PRONOUN
Like the construction with "ibi+abeli", ibi can serve as an adverbial pronoun in a variety of situations. It represents the location associated with the action of the verb. It often has the meaning of "there, to there,

USE OF INDI AS A PRONOUN
Indi has a variety of meanings, such as "thence, from there" when used as an adverb, having meanings like "about it, of it, of them", of course being used in relation to the pronoun "Di" alongside another pronoun. It can be used to replace certain prepositional phrases once uttered. It can be used as the object of a verb to replace an indefinite quantity of an item.

ABELI VS TENELI = "to have"
Abeli and Teneli can both mean "to have". Abeli typically corresponds to the auxiliary use of this verb, but can also refer to general possession. Teneli can be used to mean "hold, grasp" and refers to possessing items on the person in question.

Abyo un Fiyi. I have a son. (Abeli is used because one doesn't hold their son)
Tenyo unos Shazi. I have some cheese. (Teneli is used because the subject could be holding it)

Formation of Agentive Suffixes

Agents of an action can be indicated with specific suffixes. Think like "do" vs "doer" in English, or "cazar" vs "cazador" in Spanish. They form nouns that indicate a person that does an action associated with the root. These are formed by taking the infinitive, e.g. Shatsali, removing the -ali ending, and replacing it with -ató. (Ató, Etó, Itó)

-AR verbs
Shatsali -> Shatsató To hunt -> Hunter
-ER verbs
Hasheli -> Hashetó To do -> Doer, maker
-IR verbs
Hinili -> Hinitó -> To finish -> Finisher

The Treatment of Diacritics in Synthetic Words

Nobyatsin features three kinds of diacritics in words, diuresis for y-x vowels, carrot for w-x vowels, and the accent mark for stressed vowels.

Formation of Gerunds
Verbs like Xadäli, Abãtäli, etc. already have a diacritic for the iotated vowel in the thematic vowel of the infinitive. When -ali conjugation verbs make their gerunds, they inherit the ending -ANDO from Latin, which in Nobyatsin becomes -ãdo. These special verbs retain this ending, and receive an "i" before it to mark the iotation of the vowel.

Xadäli -> Xad<u>iã</u>do
Abãtäli -> Abãt<u>iã</u>do

Haçeli with Time

Haçeli is used in time expressions like "It's been a lot of time."
"Hashit mut Temp".

"Most"

The construction article + maji + di + noun can be used to form phrases like

"most nights" - "iäs maji di Noci"
"most men" - "iös maji di Ómini"

Morphology
Nobyatsin is a fusional language. Verbs have a robust conjugation system and pronouns and articles as well have declensions.

Numbers

1 - Un 2 - Dôs 3 - Tês 4 - Kât 5 - Çinke 6 - Siç 7 - Seci 8 - Oco 9 - Nobi 10 - Deçi

All numbers are directly descended from their Latin counterparts.

11 - Undeçi 12 - Dôdeçi 13 - Têdeçi 14 - Kâdeçi 15 - Çindeçi 16 - Sideçi 17 - Secideçi 18 - Ocodeçi 19 - Nobideçi 20 - Bijinci

The teens are largely inherited from Latin, not sharing a "decim et octo" construction with most other Romance languages, but 18 and 19 were formed by analogy with the existing forms, rather than using duodeviginti & undeviginti respectively.

20 - Bijinci 30 - Tîjinta 40 - Kadâjinta 50 - Çinkâjinta 60 - Siçajinta 70 - Secajinta 80 - Ocajinta 90 - Nobijinta 100 - Çent

To form numbers like 22 or 36 a construction like "viginti et duos" is used, yielding "bijinci-t-dôs" and "Tîjinta-it-siç" respectively. Note that "it" is reduced to 't' in bijinci because it ends with i.

21 - bijinci-t-un 32 - tîjinta-it-dôs 43 - kadâjinta-it-tês 54 - çinkâjinta-it-kât 65 - siçajinta-it-çinke 76 - secajinta-it-siç 87 - ocajinta-it-seci 98 - nobijinta-it-oco

Other formations follow a similar pattern. Notice the subtractive formations for x8 and x9 (duode, unde) are not used.

101 - Çent-it-un 102 - Çent-it-dós 121 - Çent bijinci-t-un 133 - Çent tîjinta-it-tês
194 - Çent nobijinta-kât

200 - Duçént
300 - Têçént
400 - Kâçént
500 - Çinçént
600 - Siçént
700 - Seciçént
800 - Ocoçént
900 - Nobiçént
1000 - Mië

1998 - Mië nobiçént nobijinta-it-oco

2000 - Dôs Mië
2023 - Dôs Mië Bijinci-it-tês

3000 - Tês Mië
4000 - Kât Mië
5000 - Çinke Mië
6000 - Siç Mië
7000 - Seci Mië
8000 - Oco Mië
9000 - Nobi Mië
10000 - Deçi Mië
11000 - Undeçi Mië
99000 - Nobijinta-it-nobi Mië
99999 - Nobijinta-it-nobi Mië Nobiçént Nobijinta-it-nobi.

100000 - Çent Mië
150000 - Çent Çinkâjinta Mië
200000 - Duçént Mië
1,000,000 - Miönii